

HARTFORD POLICE UNION

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PRESIDENT RICHARD HOLTON
Office of The President

Statement of

The Hartford Police Union
To the
Judiciary Committee

In Opposition of Raised SB Bill No.467

My name is Richard Holton, President of the Hartford Police Union, the largest independent municipal police union in the state, which is comprised of Patrolmen, Detectives, Sergeants, Lieutenants and Captains. The Hartford Police Union opposes SB 467.

The Hartford Police Union respectfully opposes Section 1, subsection (k) that states, Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the provisions of this section concerning the use of body-worn recording equipment shall not be subject to collective bargaining.

The provision in this section essentially strips the collective bargaining rights away from police officers and prevents our right to negotiate working conditions within our police department under state law that clearly states municipal employees have the legal right to collective bargaining in regards to conditions of employment. How to best implement policy on the wearing of body-worn recording equipment most certainly should be a collaborative effort that is agreed upon by all interested parties, particularly the police officers that are going to wear the cameras.

The Hartford Police Union urges this committee to consider giving police officers the opportunity to negotiate their conditions of employment and remove section 1, subsection (k) from this bill, SB 467.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns about this bill.

Sgt. Richard Holton Hartford Police Union President